

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 (ADP) R

66664

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ PAB: LBLAINGEN

NEA: ARAPHEL

S/ S- O: M. EALUM

----- 131066

R 230412 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053676

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM DACCA 20 MARCH 73
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 1229

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, OGEN, US, BG

SUBJECT: FY73 AID GRANT TO BANGLADESH

FOR LAINGEN NEA/ PAB AND AID/ ASIA FOR MACDONALD AND REES
FROM CHARGE

1. WITHIN NEXT WEEK I EXPECT RECEIVE APPOINTMENT TO
MAKE COURTESY CALL ON NEW BD FONMIN. QUITE LIKELY THAT
PLANNING COMMISSION WILL HAVE PRIMED FONMIN TO RAISE
SUBJECT OF FY73 GRANT.

2. WILL APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON (1) STATUS OF AUTHOR-
IZATION AND AMOUNT AS REQUESTED DACCA 1088, (2) ANY NEW THOUGHTS
DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE ON SCENARIO FOR SIGNING (3) WHETHER
WASHINGTON WISHES ME EXPLICITLY TO PRESS FOR RESPONSE ON USIS
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RESTITUTION BILL IN CONTEXT OF GRANT.

3. ALTHOUGH BDG HAS LARGELY FULFILLED DESIDERATA SET FORTH IN ORIGINAL SCENARIO (DACCA 5451), I NOTE THAT THERE IS STILL ENOUGH TENDENCY AMONG AWAMI LEAGUE ORATORS (ALBEIT NO LONGER AMONG CABINET MINISTERS) TO PLAY SINO- AMERICAN CONSPIRACY THEME THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK CABINET- LEVEL PUBLIC ASSOCIATION WITH GRANT SIGNATURE. NOW THAT MUJIB HAS TAKEN OVER PLANNING MINISTRY HIMSELF AND TAJUDDIN IS OUT OF LINE OF COMMAND, SUITABLE SCENARIO SHOULD BE EASIER FOR BDG TO WORK OUT.

4. INSOFAR AS CONTINUING RESOLUTION SITUATION PERMITS, IT WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE AND TIDIER TO PROCEED WITH GRANT AT 45-50 MILLION DOLLAR LEVEL THAN TO BEGIN WITH 30 MILLION PIECEMEAL APPROACH.

5. USIS RESTITUTION QUESTION WOULD BETTER BE TREATED AS SEPARATE ITEM WITH FONOFF DIRECT DJ GENERAL BUT I FORE-SEE NO HARM IN LETTING LOWER LEVELS FOREIGN MINISTRY KNOW THAT WASHINGTON IS UNLIKELY TO SPEED UP GRANT AUTHORIZATION IF BDG SEEMS TO BE DRAGGING ITS FEET ON SIMPLE PROCEDURAL CHORE OF GIVING US A WRITTEN IOU FOR SOME 128 THOUSAND DOLLARS. ALTHOUGH THIS BDG OBLIGATION DOES NOT SEEM TO BE DIRECTLY RELEVANT, WE ARE NOT UNMINDFUL OF IMPERATIVES RECENTLY RESTATED IN STATE 048653. OUR PROBLEM IS NOT WITH FONOFF APPRECIATION OF TOPIC ZSOBHAN' S INITIATIVE WAS REPORTED IN DACCA 0924) BUT RATHER TO GALVANIZE SOMEONE TO BELL THE CAT IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, WHERE TAJUDDIN STILL PRESIDES.
NEWBERRY UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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